



Repeater: NØDX 145.190 MHz (Input 144.590 / Tone 192.8 Hz)



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The Eastern Iowa DX Bulletin

Number 243, October 11, 2024

Craig Fastenow, KØCF, Editor

This bulletin is a compilation of **currently active** DX operations (or those that will become active within the current week) from recent issues of the three DX bulletins listed below and other sources. Credit for the source is given at the end of each article.

Articles are ordered by the entity's callsign prefix from the *ARRL DXCC Entities List*. Callsigns used are in **bold** with dates of operation highlighted in **red**. Clickable links are provided for QSL and other information wherever possible. Note that articles may be edited for grammar, language, style and accuracy and will remain in *The Bulletin* while active; articles that are announcements of ongoing operations, or that have no specified end date, will be removed after three weeks.

Also included is a [Propagation](#) section, updated daily; and a [Contest Calendar](#) of upcoming popular contests.

DX News items are courtesy of:

The ARRL DX Bulletin

The bulletin is available at <http://www.arrl.org>

425 DX News, A.R.I. DX Bulletin (425DXN)

Edited by Mauro Pregliasco, I1JQJ & Valeria Pregliasco, IK1ADH

425 DX News Home Page: <https://www.425dxn.org/>

425 DX News Google Group: <https://groups.google.com/g/425eng>

DX Newsletter (DXNL)

Edited by Andreas Salder, DK5ON

A weekly service of DARC Committee "DX", <http://www.darcdxhf.de>

Ohio-Penn DX Bulletin (OPDX)

Edited by Tedd Mirgliotta, KB8NW. Although OPDX is no longer published as a weekly bulletin, Tedd still sends DX news emails.

We will occasionally publish some of them.

Propagation data is from:

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's

[Space Weather Prediction Center](#)

Dr. Tony Phillips' SpaceWeather.com, used by permission

Contest data courtesy of the [WA7BNM Contest Calendar](#)



Solar-Terrestrial Data

12 Oct 2024 1721 GMT
 SFI: 214 SN: 106
 A-Index: 116
 K-Index: 4
 X-Ray: C2.7
 304A: 153.8 @ SEM
 Ptn Flx: 2000
 Elc Flx: 13400
 Aurora: 1/n=1.99
 Mag (Bz): 1.1
 Solar Wind: 583.2
 Geomag Field ACTIVE
 Sig Noise Lvl S3-S4
 Current Solar Image



<http://www.nonbh.com>
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DX News

3D2/R, ROTUMA I. Members of the Rebel DX Group are QRV as **3D2V** and **3D22** until **October 30th**.

Activity is on 160 to 10 meters using primarily FT8 in the SuperFox and MSHV modes. QSL via [ClubLog's OQRS](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 37 October 3, 2024] (1004-1101)

3V, TUNISIA. Ash, **3V9A**, reports that 3 years after obtaining his callsign he has now received permission to operate from his permanent home. Currently he is active only on 20m (SSB) but hopes

to add more bands later. QSL via [LX1NO](#).

-[DXNL # 2425 September 25, 2024] (0927-1018)

5H, TANZANIA. Maurizio, IK2GZU will be active again as **5H3MB** from Tanzania from **October 10th to November 11th**, while doing volunteer work at a local school. In his spare time, he will operate SSB, CW and digital modes on 80-10 meters. QSL via [ClubLog's OQRS](#), LoTW and eQSL, or via [IK2GZU](#).
-[425DXN # 1741 September 14, 2024] (1004-1115)

5R, MADAGASCAR. Eric, F6ICX will be active again as **5R8IC** from Sainte-Marie Island (AF-090), Madagascar from **October until the end of the year**. He will operate mainly CW on 40-10 meters; during the last two weeks of December he will also be QRV on the QO-100 satellite. QSL via LoTW, [ClubLog's OQRS](#), or via [F6ICX](#).
-[425DXN # 1742 September 21, 2024] (0927-0103)

5V, TOGO. Antonio, IK7WUL, has moved from Benin (TY2AA) to Togo and will be active as **5VØDX** during his spare time, mostly on SSB. The duration of his stay is unknown at present. QSL via [IK7WUL](#).
-[DXNL # 2427 October 9, 2024] (1011-1101)

8Q, MALDIVES. Francesco, IKØFUX will be QRV as **8Q7UX** from **October 6th to 14th**. Activity is holiday style on the HF bands using CW and FT8. This may include being an entry in the upcoming Oceania DX CW Contest (October 12th-13th). QSL via [IKØFUX](#), LoTW.
-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 37 October 3, 2024] (1004-1018)

8R, GUYANA. Aldir, PY1SAD will be active as **8R1TM** from Georgetown, Guyana from **October 12th to November 24th**. He will operate CW, SSB and digital modes on all bands and via satellite. QSL via LoTW, eQSL, QRZ Logbook, or direct to [PY1SAD](#).
-[425DXN # 1743 September 28, 2024] (1011-1129)

9J, ZAMBIA. Tom, DL2RMC is currently on a work assignment in Lusaka, Zambia, and has received the callsign **9J2FI**. "Since I am working on a time-consuming project, I won't be very active", he says. "Still, you can hear me in many contests". QSL via [DL1RTL](#).
-[425DXN # 1743 September 28, 2024] (0927-1018)

9X, RWANDA. Harald, DF2WO will be QRV as **9X2AW** from Kigali from **October 9th to 23rd**. Activity will be on the HF bands and 6 meters. He will also have equipment for Satellite QO-100. QSL via [MØOXO's OQRS](#).
-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 37 October 3, 2024] (1004-1025)

A2, BOTSWANA, Pista, HA5AO is QRV as **A25AO** from Chobe National Park **until October 14th**. Activity is on 80 to 6 meters using CW, SSB, and FT8. QSL to [HA5AO](#).
-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 36 September 26, 2024] (0927-1018)

C2, NAURU. A large German team (DG2RON, DJ5IW, DJ7TO, DJ9KH, DK3CG, DK5WL, DL1KWK, DL2RNS, DL4SVA, DL6KAC, DL6KVA, DL7JOM, DL7VEE and DL8LAS) will be active as **C21MM** from Nauru (OC-031) on **October 11th to 27th**: six team members will arrive on October 11th, the rest of the team will arrive on October 14th for another 12 days. Plans are to operate CW, SSB, FT8 and RTTY on 160-6 meters with five stations. On FT8 they will be using MSHV multi-stream, but "there is a possibility for using SuperFox-WSJT-X too". More information, QSL policy included, can be found on <https://c21mm.mydx.de/>. QSL via [ClubLog's OQRS](#) (preferred), or via [DL4SVA](#).
-[425DXN # 1735 August 3, 2024] (1011-1101)

C9, MOZAMBIQUE. Gus CX2AM, Bert CX3AN and Rainer CX8FB will be active as **C91BV** from Mozambique on **October 17th-24th**. They will operate CW and SSB with two stations on 40-6 meters. QSL via [EB7DX](#).
-[425DXN # 1737 August 17, 2024] (1011-1025)

CE9, ANTARCTICA. David, F4FKT, operates as **FT4YM** from Dumont d'Urville Base on Petrel Island **until March 2025** and as **FT4YM/p** from the bases Concordia, Little Dome C, and Cape Prud'homme.

QSL via [F4FKT](#) or [F5PFP](#).

-[DXNL # 2427 October 9, 2024] (1011-1101)

DXCC TOP TWENTY. Here are the top 20 entities on ClubLog's "DXCC Most Wanted" list as of October 11, 2024:

1. P5	DPRK (North Korea)	11. ZS8	Prince Edward & Marion Islands
2. BS7H	Scarborough Reef	12. KH4	Midway Island
3. CE0X	San Felix Islands	13. VK0M	Macquarie Island
4. BV9P	Pratas Island	14. PY0S	Saint Peter And Paul Rocks
5. KH7K	Kure Island	15. KP5	Desecheo Island
6. KH3	Johnston Island	16. VP0S	South Sandwich Islands
7. 3Y/P	Peter 1 Island	17. ZL9	New Zealand Subantarctic Islands
8. FT5/X	Kerguelen Island	18. FK/C	Chesterfield Islands
9. YV0	Aves Island	19. VK0H	Heard Island
10. 3Y/B	Bouvet Island	20. FT/T	Tromelin Island

For the complete list, see <https://clublog.org/mostwanted.php>

-[K0CF October 11, 2024] (1011-1101)

EA, SPAIN. Markus, DJ4EL will be active as **EA5/DJ4EL** from the islands of Benidorm, Escombreras and Tabarca (all part of IOTA group EU-093) on **October 17th-25th**. Updates will be posted to <https://x.com/rapanuiman>. QSL via [ClubLog's OQRS](#) (preferred) and LoTW.

-[425DXN # 1743 September 28, 2024] (1011-1025)

EA, SPAIN. Special callsigns **EG3AMCUP** (from **September 15th to October 14th**) and **AO3AMCUP** (from **October 15th to October 28th**) will be used by members of URE's Unio de Radioaficionats de Barcelona i Baix Llobregat (EA3MM) during the 37th America's Cup. A certificate will be available, see <https://www.ure.es/diploma-cq-americas-cup-2024/> for information. QSL via [EA3MM](#), LoTW, eQSL and QRZ Logbook.

-[425DXN # 1742 September 21, 2024] (0920-1101)

EA, SPAIN. Special event station **EG2AMCUP** is QRV **until October 29th** during the 37th America's Cup being held in Barcelona. QSL via [EA3MM](#), [ClubLog's OQRS](#), LoTW.

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 35 September 19, 2024] (0920-1101)

EK, ARMENIA. Artem, R2GEO, operates from Eriwan during his spare time as **EK2/R2GEO** on 20m (SSB, digital). QSL via [R2GEO](#), [EA5GL](#), LoTW.

-[DXNL # 2425 September 25, 2024] (0927-1018)

F, FRANCE. Dominique, F5PTI, and other ops will use the callsign **TM5RT** to draw attention to a military jubilee in France from **September 29th until October 13th**. For other information see qrz.com. QSL via [F5PTI](#).

-[DXNL # 2425 September 25, 2024] (0927-1018)

F, FRANCE. To commemorate the 80th anniversary of the liberation of Wingle during WWII (September 2, 1944), the local radio club (F4KLR) will be active as **TM80LW** on **August 31st, September 2nd and for another 13 days until November 9th**. All SSB and CW QSOs will be confirmed automatically via the bureau and eQSL; FT8 QSOs will be confirmed via eQSL.

-[425DXN # 1738 August 24, 2024] (0830-1108)

FO, FRENCH POLYNESIA. Fred, DH5FS will be active as **FO/DH5FS** from French Polynesia from **October 4th-23rd** as follows:

October 4th-11th Manihi (OC-131)

October 11th-18th Rangiroa (OC-066)

October 18th-23th Tikehau (OC-066)

He will operate CW and FT8 on 20-10 meters. Updates will be posted to

<https://mastodon.radio/@dh5fs>. QSL via [DH5FS](#).

-[425DXN # 1744 October 5, 2024] (1004-1025)

FR, REUNION I. Stephane, F5UOW will be active holiday style as **FR/F5UOW** from Reunion Island (AF-016) on **October 9th-28th**. He will operate CW only on 17-10 meters. QSL only via LoTW.

-[425DXN # 1743 September 28, 2024] (1004-1101)

GM, SCOTLAND. Special event station **GB2ZL** (Scotland) will operate CW only on **October 1st-28th** to mark the 100th anniversary of the first amateur radio contact between Great Britain and New Zealand (October 18, 1924). See <https://www.qrz.com/db/GB2ZL> for more information. QSL via LoTW only.
-[425DXN # 1742 September 21, 2024] (0927-1101)

HH, HAITI. Special callsign **4V1SAVANNAH** will be used by the Radio Club d'Haiti to commemorate the 245th anniversary of the Battle of Savannah from **September 16th to October 20th**. In 1779, more than 500 volunteers from Saint-Domingue (the French colony which later became Haiti), fought alongside American colonial troops against the British Army during the siege of Savannah, an encounter of the American War of Independence. QSOs will be uploaded to ClubLog. QSL via [N2OO](#).
-[425DXN # 1740 September 7, 2024] (0913-1018)

HI, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC. Juergen, **HI3/DL4SDW**, remains on the air **until mid-October**.
-[DXNL # 2427 October 9, 2024] (1011-1018)

HS, THAILAND. Special event station **HS19IARU** will be active from **October 12th to November 10th** for the 19th IARU Region 3 Conference to be hosted in Bangkok by the Radio Amateur Society of Thailand (November 4th-8th, <https://www.iarur3conf2024.org>). QSL via LoTW and [ClubLog's OQRS](#).
-[425DXN # 1745 October 12, 2024] (1011-1115)

I, ITALY. Special callsign **I16PRES** will be in use from **October 12th to 27th** to celebrate the 50th anniversary of ARI San Benedetto del Tronto (IQ6SB). QSL via [IK6XEJ](#).
-[425DXN # 1745 October 12, 2024] (1011-1101)

I, ITALY. Members of ARI Bologna will be active as **I14RCDN** from **October 1st to December 31st**. The special callsign marks the 60th Anniversary of the Northern Cross Radio Telescope, one of the largest transit radio telescopes in the world. Gianfranco Sinigaglia (I4BBE, SK), after whom the Bologna ARI Section is named, was a professor of radioastronomy and applied electronics at the Physics Institute of Bologna University, and responsible for the electronics of the Northern Cross. A certificate will be available, see <https://www.qrz.com/db/I14RCDN> for information. QSL via [IZ4FUE](#).
-[425DXN # 1744 October 5, 2024] (1004-1025)

I, ITALY. Celebrating the 100th anniversary of the start of regular radio broadcasting in Italy (October 6, 1924), ARI local branches across Italy will be using special callsigns from **October 1st to December 29th**. The callsigns will be in the format **I1#Rxyz** (e.g. I19RCAT for ARI Catania) and **IR#Rxyz** (e.g. IR1RVDB for ARI Valbormida). In addition, special event station **I1MRTV** will be active from the RAI Radio and Television Museum in Torino. Certificates and electronic QSLs will be available for download from the HamAward platform (direct link from each special callsign's qrz.com page).
-[425DXN # 1743 September 28, 2024] (0927-1227)

J8, ST. VINCENT. Special event call sign **J8AA** is active **until January 31, 2025**, for contest activity. Look for Franco, J88BTI who will be QRV as J8AA as a Single Op/All Band, except 160 meters, entry in the Oceania DX SSB contest (October 5th-6th). QSL via [EA5GL](#).
-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 37 October 3, 2024] (1004-1025)

JA, JAPAN. Osamu "Sam", 7K1EAS, will be active as **JR6/7K1EAS** from Japan's westernmost island Yonaguni (AS-024) from **0200 UTC October 13th to 0600 UTC October 17th**. QRV mostly on 40-10m (SSB, FT4/8) with dipole and Zepp antennas. QSL via [7K1EAS](#), [ClubLog's OQRS](#).
-[DXNL # 2427 October 9, 2024] (1011-1018)

JA, JAPAN. Take, JI3DST is active as **JS6RRR** from Miyako Island (AS-079) **until November 25th**, including activity during the CQ WW DX SSB and CW contests. Other callsigns to be used are **JI3DST/6**, **JJ5RBH/6** and **JR8YLY/6** on CW and SSB, as well as **JI3DST/p**, **JJ5RBH/p** and **JR8YLY/p** on FT8. QSOs will be made available for ClubLog and LoTW Matching on the IOTA website.
-[425DXN # 1744 October 5, 2024] (1004-1129)

JW, SVALBARD. Look for **JW7XK**, **JW9DL** and **JW6VM** to be active from the Svalbard Amatorradioklubb in Longyearbyen (EU-026) on **October 9th-14th**. They will participate in the Scandinavian Activity Contest, SSB (October 12th-13th) as **JW5X**. QSL JW5X via [ClubLog's OQRS](#), LoTW, or via [LA5X](#). QSL JW7XK via [LA7XK](#), [ClubLog's OQRS](#) and LoTW. QSL JW9DL via [LA9DL](#) and

LoTW. QSL JW6VM via [LA6VM](#).

-[425DXN # 1743 September 28, 2024] (1004-1018)

KHØ, MARIANA IS. Harry, JG7PSJ will be active holiday style as **WHØRU** from Saipan, Mariana Islands (OC-086) on **October 11th-20th**. He will operate CW, SSB and RTTY on 40-10 meters. QSL via LoTW, or direct to [JG7PSJ](#).

-[425DXN # 1744 October 5, 2024] (1011-1025)

OX, GREENLAND. Bo, OZ1DJJ is QRV as **OX3LX** until **October 15th**. Activity is in his spare time and from Kangerlussuaq, Qaqortoq and Christian IV Island (NA-151). QSL via [OZØJ](#), [ClubLog's OQRS](#) and LoTW.

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 37 October 3, 2024] (1004-1018)

PA, NETHERLANDS. Volker, DL1WH will be active holiday style as **PA/DL1WH/p** from Ameland Island (EU-038) on **October 12th-26th**. He will operate CW and some SSB. QSL via [DL1WH](#).

-[425DXN # 1744 October 5, 2024] (1011-1025)

PA, NETHERLANDS. Special callsign **PH8ØLIB** will be in use from various locations from **September 11th until November 10th** to commemorate the 80th anniversary of the liberation of southern Netherlands in the autumn of 1944. Activity will be on 80-10 meters SSB, CW and digital modes. See <https://www.grz.com/db/PH80LIB> for detailed information. QSL via the bureau.

-[425DXN # 1740 September 7, 2024] (0906-1108)

PY, BRAZIL. Team **ZW8C** will be active from Santa Isabel Island (SA-025) on **October 17th-19th**. They will operate SSB, CW and FT8 on 80-6 meters, plus SSB, FM and FT8 on 144 MHz and SSB on the QO-100 satellite. QSL via LoTW, PP5AA (bureau) or [PS8PL](#) (direct).

-[425DXN # 1744 October 5, 2024] (1011-1025)

PYØF, FERNANDO DE NORONHA. Ben, DA1DX (ex DL6FBL), Mark (DK2CX), Paul (DL5CW), Wolf (OE2VEL), and Renner (PY7RP) remain active as **PXØFF** from Fernando de Noronha (SA-003) until **October 21st**. QRV on 160-6m, including 60m, on CW, SSB, FT8 (MSHV). QSL via [DJ4MX](#).

-[DXNL # 2427 October 9, 2024] (1011-1025)

PZ, SURINAME. While doing training stints in Suriname, **PZ5JT** will be put on the air **during October and November** by members of the Dutch army as a spare time activity.

-[DXNL # 2425 September 25, 2024] (1004-1122)

SV, GREECE. Special callsign **SX8ØFF** will be used from various locations (including Crete as SV9/SX8ØFF) on **October 1st-31st**. The purpose of this activity is to honor the 80 fallen Greek firefighters and aerial firefighting crews who lost their lives in the line of duty. QSL via LoTW, eQSL and QRZ Logbook; paper cards will not be available.

-[425DXN # 1743 September 28, 2024] (0927-1101)

TI9, COCOS I. Jose, TI2JJP is active as **TI9/TI2JJP** from Cocos Island (NA-012) until **October 15th**. Initially he was signing TI9/I2JJP on FT8 by mistake. He operates SSB and FT8, so far on 20 and 10 meters. QSL via [EA7FTR](#).

-[425DXN # 1745 October 12, 2024] (1011-1018)

TU, COTE D'IVOIRE. Mustafa, TA2IMG, a resident in Abidjan since 2016, has now received the callsign **TU5ML**. QRV on 160-6m (SSB, FT8) and via QO-100. QSL via [TA2YGT](#) or direct to [TU5ML](#).

-[DXNL # 2425 September 25, 2024] (0927-1018)

UA, EUROPEAN RUSSIA. Oleg, RD1A, is a member of the Severnyy Polyus crew and will drift freely around the Arctic until September 2025 and operate as **RI42SP**. The vessel's exact position can be tracked here: https://goradar.ru/vessels_map.php?imo=273295970

-[DXNL # 2427 October 9, 2024] (1011-1101)

V5, NAMIBIA. Gunter, DK2WH is QRV as **V51WH** from Omaruru until **November 12th**. Activity is on 160 to 10 meters, including 60 meters, using SSB, FT8, and possibly CW. He will be active as **V55Y** in various contests. QSL to [DK2WH](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 35 September 19, 2024] (0920-1115)

VK9N, NORFOLK I. Nick, VK2DX is QRV as **VK9DX** and has been active on 10 meters using SSB around 0845 to 0915z. QSL to [VK2DX](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 37 October 3, 2024] (1004-1025)

VP9, BERMUDA. Josh, W9HT is QRV as **VP9/W9HT** until **October 14th**. Activity is on 160 to 10 meters using CW, SSB, and FT8. QSL to [W9HT](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 38 October 10, 2024] (1011-1018)

VU, INDIA. Special event station **AT78I** is QRV until **November 13th** to celebrate 78 years of independence for India. Activity is on the HF bands using CW and SSB. QSL via [VU2JOS](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 31 August 22, 2024] (0823-1115)

XV, VIET NAM. Callsign **3W3B** went **QRT** permanently on October 10th. "After 14 years of fun it was time to renew my license to comply with new Government Regulations", Bruce says. His **new callsign** is **XV9B**, but his QSL routes remain unchanged: via LoTW (preferred), or via [E21EIC](#).

-[425DXN # 1745 October 12, 2024] (1011-1025)

YJ, VANUATU. Team **YJØVV** (namely N4VGE, K4QQG, K1NZ and K2SAV) will be active from Efate (OC-035), Vanuatu on **October 16th-29th**. They will operate SSB, CW and digital modes (also FT8 SuperFox) on 160-6 meters with two high power stations and a choice of seven antennas and will participate in the CQ WW DX SSB Contest (October 26th-27th). QSOs will be uploaded to ClubLog and LoTW. QSL via [K4NHW](#).

-[425DXN # 1743 September 28, 2024] (1011-1101)

ZD9, TRISTAN DA CUNHA & GOUGH I. Lance, W7GJ, operating as **ZD9GJ** had dismantled and packed all his equipment on September 29th, ready to leave Tristan da Cunha on October 1st. However, adverse sea conditions have delayed his departure. "The forecast for the departure of the MV 'Lance' is now next Wednesday October 10th", he says. "I have decided to instead stay here for an additional 2-1/2 weeks until **October 27th** and try to return on the little MFV Edinburgh". He is rebuilding the 6m antenna and station.

-[425DXN # 1744 October 5, 2024] (1004-1025)

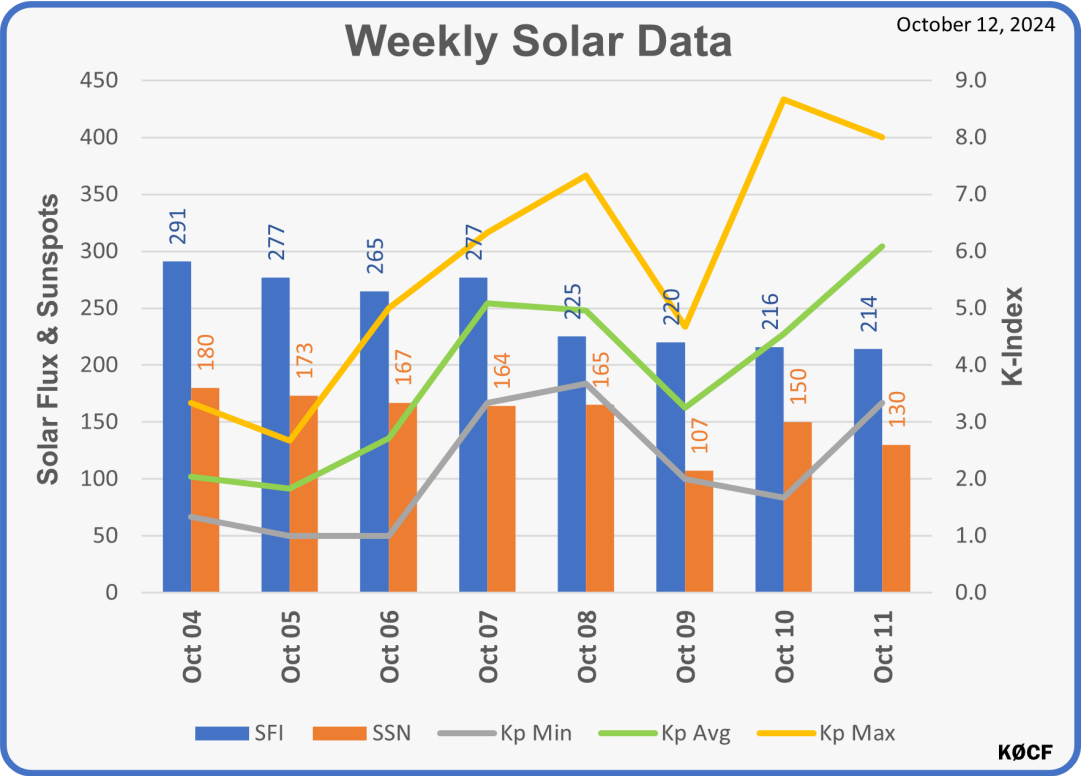
ZL, NEW ZEALAND. Special event station **ZM1ØØDX** will be QRV from **September 29th to December 26th** to celebrate the very first trans-world QSO between Z4AA and G2SZ. Activity will be on 160 to 6 meters using all modes. In addition, special event station **ZL4AA** will also be active for this event. QSL via operators' instructions.

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 36 September 26, 2024] (0927-1227)

ZL7, CHATHAM IS. Holger, ZL3IO will be QRV as **ZL7DX** from **October 15th to 31st**. Activity will be on the HF bands. This includes being active as **ZL7IO** in the upcoming CQ World Wide DX SSB contest (October 26th-27th). QSL to [ZL3IO](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 38 October 10, 2024] (1011-1101)

Propagation (Updated daily)



The Weekly Solar Data chart plots Solar Flux Index (SFI), Sunspot number (SSN) and Planetary K-Index (Kp) for the past 8 days. With 8 Planetary K-index readings each day, only the minimum, average and maximum K-index values are plotted. **Note:** You may click [here](#) or on the chart above to see the same data for the past month.

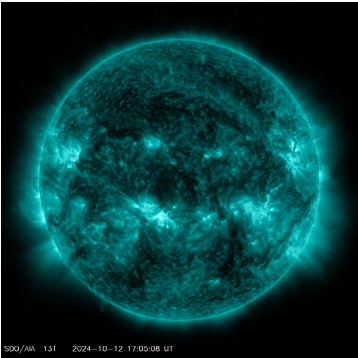
The Daily Solar Flux Index, Sunspot number, Planetary K-index, Solar Flux predictions and Solar Flare data used in this bulletin have been collected by KØCF from the U.S. Department of Commerce's NOAA Space Weather Prediction Center.

The propagation graphs above are the creations of KØCF and are unique in space weather reporting.

Please Note: The graphs are high resolution .PNG files which you may view in greater detail using your browser's "zoom" feature. Alternatively, right click on the graph and select "Open Image in New Tab" to enlarge it, or "Save Image As..." to save it to your computer for further analysis.

NASA's current view of the Sun at a wave-length of 131 Angstroms. This wavelength shows incredible solar detail.

Click [here](#) or on the image to view as a full screen 48-hour video loop. It is fascinating!



Propagation Summary

For the 8 day period from Friday, October 4th through yesterday, October 11th.

The average solar flux was 242, down 5 points from the previous week, with a weekly high of 291 on Friday, October 4th, followed by a low of 214 on October 11th.

The average sunspot count was 151, down by 28 from last week, peaking at 180 on Friday, October 4th followed by a weekly low of 107 on October 9th.

The Planetary K-index weekly average was 5.8 with a maximum of 8.7 on Thursday, October 10th, resulting in severe geomagnetic storm conditions. Yesterday's K-index maximum was 8.0 with severe geomagnetic storm conditions.

Solar flare activity since October 5th has been high with 14 major flares, the largest of which was a major X 2.1 event on Monday, October 7th.

Propagation Data

Major solar flares, Saturday, October 5th through 1250 UTC, October 12th.

#	Date	UTC	Mag.
1	Oct 11	1633	M 2.1
2	Oct 10	2230	M 3.0
3	Oct 10	1200	M 1.3
4	Oct 09	2312	M 7.7
5	Oct 09	1547	X 1.4
6	Oct 09	0156	X 1.8
7	Oct 08	0851	M 1.2
8	Oct 07	2101	X 1.0
9	Oct 07	1913	X 2.1
10	Oct 06	2119	M 1.6
11	Oct 06	1859	M 1.4
12	Oct 06	1521	M 1.3
13	Oct 05	2320	M 2.4
14	Oct 05	0844	M 1.6

(NOAA's graph of recent flare activity: [GOES-X-Ray-Flux](#))

From the NOAA Space Weather Prediction Center, here are the probabilities of major solar flares and the predicted 10.7 cm Solar Flux for the next 3 days. NOAA updates this information daily.

Date	M-Flares	X-Flares	Solar Flux
Oct 12	60%	25%	215
Oct 13	60%	25%	215
Oct 14	60%	25%	212

Looking farther ahead, here is the NOAA Space Weather Prediction Center forecast of 10.7 cm radio flux and maximum Planetary K-index (Kp) for the next 12 days. This data is updated by NOAA every Monday (last updated on October 7, 2024).

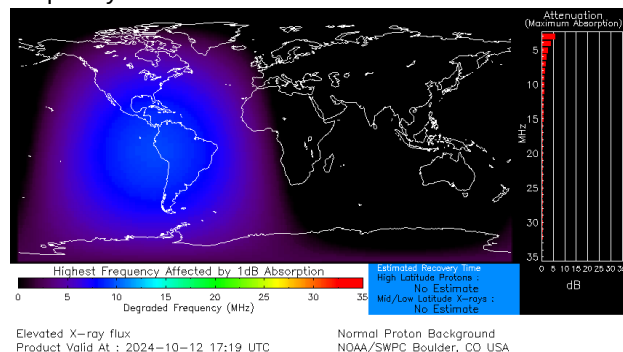
Date	Flux	Kp
Oct 12	235	3
Oct 13	230	2
Oct 14	175	2
Oct 15	175	2

Date	Flux	Kp
Oct 16	175	2
Oct 17	170	2
Oct 18	170	2
Oct 19	170	2

Date	Flux	Kp
Oct 20	170	2
Oct 21	170	2
Oct 22	175	4
Oct 23	180	3

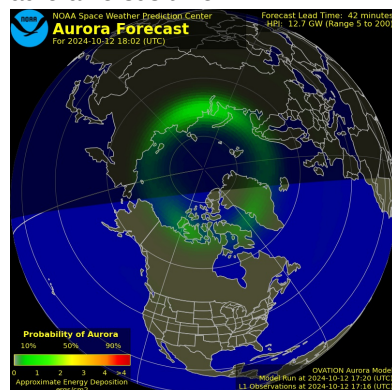
Global D Region Absorption

Conditions in the D-region of the ionosphere have a dramatic effect on HF communications. The D-Region Absorption map combines the effects of solar particles and photons. Yellow to red colors on the map depict increasing signal attenuation, where the bar chart at the right displays attenuation versus frequency. Click the thumbnail below for an animated map of D-Region Absorption:



The Aurora Borealis

The aurora is not only beautiful to see but can have a profound impact on HF and VHF radio propagation. For the HF operator, auroras can result in a complete shut-down of propagation. However, on VHF, auroras present interesting DX possibilities. Beam antennas are very desirable and should be pointed north, towards the aurora. Signals are reflected by "back-scatter" and will be distorted with a rough buzz. SSB is the best voice mode to use, but copy can be difficult. CW will have a rough buzzy sound but be perfectly copyable. Click the thumbnail below for an animated map of aurora versus time:



Highs for Cycle 25

Solar Flux: 336 on August 8, 2024.

Sunspots: 382 on August 10, 2024.

Quiet Weekend

Earth's magnetic field is calming down after [a full day](#) of severe geomagnetic storming on Oct. 11th. Auroras this weekend are unlikely--even if the sun hurls another CME our way. It wouldn't arrive until Monday.

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Very Low Latitude Auroras

Northern Lights in Mexico? Believe it. On the night of Oct. 10-11, auroras descended all the way to the tropics. René Saade photographed the display from the beach at Mazatlan, Sinaloa:



"We are at 23 degrees north latitude," says Saade. "We also saw auroras during the [May 10th superstorm](#). Seeing auroras this far south twice in a year is amazing!!"

Another notable low-latitude sighting from Priscilla Coote in [Key West](#) (+24.7 N). "How often do you see auroras and coconut palms in the same photo?" she wonders. Also, the Sociedad de Astronomía del Caribe is reporting auroras photographed from Toa Baja, Puerto Rico (+18.4 N), and from a cruiseship just south of Cuba (~21 N).

These remarkably low latitude sightings highlight the rarity of the Oct. 10-11, 2024, geomagnetic storm. Such a display has occurred only a handful of times in the 21st century. Fantastic pictures are pouring into our gallery from around the world. [Take a look!](#)

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Popular Propagation web sites

<https://prop.kc2g.com/> (Excellent Maximum Usable Frequency map)

NOAA <https://www.swpc.noaa.gov/>

<https://www.spaceweather.com/>

<https://www.solarham.com/>

<https://dx.gsl.net/propagation/>

A Propagation Tutorial

The solar X-ray flux tracks solar activity and solar flares. Solar flux, which can vary from as low as 50 to as high as 300, influences the level of ionization in the F2 region of the ionosphere, providing a very good prediction of HF DX conditions. The higher the solar flux, the better conditions will be for the higher HF frequencies and even 6 meters. However, the levels need to be maintained for some days to allow ionization in the F2 layer to build up. A solar flux of 150 results in good HF band conditions, while levels of 200 and up can provide great conditions.

Large X-ray flares on the sun can increase the ionization of the D layer of the ionosphere (a lower

layer) on the sunlit side of the Earth, greatly attenuating or blocking HF radio transmissions for up to a half hour. Solar flares often produce Coronal Mass Ejections (CMEs) which, if Earth directed, can lead to geomagnetic storms. Some large flares are also accompanied by strong radio bursts that may interfere with other radio frequencies and cause problems for satellite communication and radio navigation (GPS).

The Planetary K-index is a measure of the magnitude of geomagnetic storms and is an excellent indicator of disturbances in the Earth's magnetic field. A level of 1 or 2 represents quiet geomagnetic conditions; a reading of 3 or 4 may cause some propagation deterioration; 5 and 6 are minor to moderate geomagnetic storms; and 7 to 9 are strong, severe, and extreme storm conditions. Strong geomagnetic storms can trigger Auroral displays and cause HF radio blackouts. Higher geomagnetic activity also has the adverse effect of lowering maximum usable frequencies, much like lower solar flux does.

For best conditions, the solar flux should be above 150 for a few days with the K index below 2. When these conditions are met, some good DX is likely!

-[Compiled from information on NOAA.gov and other sources]

Contest Calendar

Weekly Contests

Contest	Start UTC		End	Web Site
K1USN Slow Speed Test	Monday	0000Z	0100Z	Rules
ICWC Medium Speed Test	Monday	1300Z	1400Z	Rules
	Monday	1900Z	2000Z	
	Tuesday	0300Z	0400Z	
CWops Test (CWT)	Wednesday	1300Z	1400Z	Rules
	Wednesday	1900Z	2000Z	
	Thursday	0300Z	0400Z	
	Thursday	0700Z	0800Z	
Weekly RTTY Test	Friday	0145Z	0215Z	Rules
NCCC CW Sprint (NS)	Friday	0230Z	0300Z	Rules

Note: Start Days are in UTC, e.g. Monday at 0000 UTC is Sunday at 7:00 PM in the Central Daylight Saving Time zone, or Sunday at 6:00 PM in the Central Standard Time zone.

Full Calendar

Contest	Start		End		Web Site
Makrothen RTTY Contest	Oct 12	0000Z	Oct 13	1559Z	Rules
Nevada QSO Party	Oct 12	0300Z	Oct 13	2100Z	Rules
Oceania DX Contest, CW	Oct 12	0600Z	Oct 13	0600Z	Rules
Scandinavian Activity Contest, SSB	Oct 12	1200Z	Oct 13	1200Z	Rules
Arizona QSO Party	Oct 12	1500Z	Oct 13	0500Z	Rules
Pennsylvania QSO Party	Oct 12	1600Z	Oct 13	0400Z	Rules
	Oct 13	1300Z	Oct 13	2200Z	

South Dakota QSO Party	Oct 12	1800Z	Oct 13	1800Z	Rules
10-10 Int. Fall Contest, CW	Oct 19	0001Z	Oct 20	2359Z	Rules
New York QSO Party	Oct 19	1400Z	Oct 20	0200Z	Rules
Stew Perry Topband Challenge	Oct 19	1500Z	Oct 20	1500Z	Rules
Illinois QSO Party	Oct 20	1700Z	Oct 21	0100Z	Rules
ARRL School Club Roundup	Oct 21	1300Z	Oct 25	2359Z	Rules
CQ Worldwide DX Contest, SSB	Oct 26	0000Z	Oct 27	2400Z	Rules
Ukrainian DX Contest	Nov 2	1200Z	Nov 3	1200Z	Rules
ARRL Sweepstakes Contest, CW	Nov 2	2100Z	Nov 4	0300Z	Rules
WAE DX Contest, RTTY	Nov 9	0000Z	Nov 10	2359Z	Rules
10-10 Int. Fall Contest, Digital	Nov 9	0001Z	Nov 10	2359Z	Rules
JIDX Phone Contest	Nov 9	0700Z	Nov 10	1300Z	Rules
OK/OM DX Contest, CW	Nov 9	1200Z	Nov 10	1200Z	Rules
North American SSB Sprint Contest	Nov 10	0000Z	Nov 10	0400Z	Rules
LZ DX Contest	Nov 16	1200Z	Nov 17	1200Z	Rules
ARRL Sweepstakes Contest, SSB	Nov 16	2100Z	Nov 18	0300Z	Rules
CQ Worldwide DX Contest, CW	Nov 23	0000Z	Nov 24	2400Z	Rules
ARRL 160-Meter Contest	Dec 6	2200Z	Dec 8	1600Z	Rules
ARRL 10-Meter Contest	Dec 14	0000Z	Dec 15	2359Z	Rules
OK DX RTTY Contest	Dec 21	0000Z	Dec 21	2400Z	Rules
Croatian DX Contest	Dec 21	1400Z	Dec 22	1400Z	Rules
ARRL Rookie Roundup, CW	Dec 22	1800Z	Dec 22	2359Z	Rules
RAC Winter Contest	Dec 28	0000Z	Dec 28	2359Z	Rules
Stew Perry Topband Challenge	Dec 28	1500Z	Dec 29	1500Z	Rules
ARRL RTTY Roundup	Jan 4	1800Z	Jan 5	2400Z	Rules
ARRL Kids Day	Jan 4	1800Z	Jan 4	2359Z	Rules
YB DX Contest	Jan 11	0000Z	Jan 11	2359Z	Rules
North American QSO Party, CW	Jan 11	1800Z	Jan 12	0600Z	Rules

-[Contest data courtesy of the [WA7BNM Contest Calendar](#)]